

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 00093 081412Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 042594

R 081125Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2295

INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 0093

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, NI

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MARCH TO PETITION FMG FOR RELEASE MILITARY
DETAINEES

1. TAI SOLARIN, NIGERIAN EDUCATOR AND COLUMNIST FOR IBADAN-BASED TRIBUNE, HAS PROPOSED MARCH FROM IBADAN TO DODAN BARRACKS FROM JANUARY 12 TO 15 TO PETITION GOWON AND FMG TO FREE MILITARY DETAINEES WHO "RELEASED COUNTRY FROM CRUEL CHAINS OF CIVILIAN REGIME" IN 1966. SOLARIN HAS DESCRIBED MARCH AS "MILD FORM OF IMMOLATION" AND "HOLY PILGRIMAGE FOR SALVATION OF COUNTRY" AND HAS APPEALED TO "ALL CITIZENS" TO TAKE PART. ADVANCE COPY PETITION AND REQUEST FOR PERMISSION FOR MARCH ALREADY SENT TO LAGOS, BUT FMG DECISION ON REQUEST NOT YET FORTHCOMING--PERHAPS DUE TO GOWON'S PRESENT ABSENCE FROM LAGOS ON BRIEF VACATION IN BENUE PLATEAU STATE.

2. COMMENT: SOLARIN'S PROPOSAL MAY BE REACTION TO STATEMENT MADE BY GOWON DURING PRESS CONFERENCE IN ENUGU LAST MONTH (LAGOS 10148). ASKED QUESTION REGARDING FATE OF REMAINING MILITARY DETAINEES, GOWON RESPONDED THAT HE "NE ER LIKED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS OF THIS SORT," BUT THAT THE PROBLEM COULD BE SAFELY LEFT TO HIM SINCE HE AND THE GOVERNMENT HAVE "HEART AND CONSCIENCE."
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 00093 081412Z

SOLARIN, WHO ENJOYS CHAMPIONING CAUSES, MAY BE PUTTING GOWON'S

CONSCIENCE TO TEST, BUT IT SEEMS DOUBTFUL HIS APPEAL WILL TURN UP
MANY WILLING MARCHERS. ROUTE FOR MARCH ENTIRELY IN YORUBA
TERRITORY WHILE DETAINEES ARE ALL IBO; AND KNOWN FMG SENSITIVITY
ON THIS ISSUE ALSO LIKELY DISCOURAGE POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS.
THUS, MARCH DOES NOT HAVE MUCH POTENTIAL FOR SUCCESS EVEN IF FMG
PERMISSION GRANTED, WHICH IS STILL FAR FROM CERTAIN.
CROSBY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POW, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LAGOS00093
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740157/aaaacbhr.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED MARCH TO PETITION FMG FOR RELEASE MILITARY DETAINEES
TAGS: PINS, NI, (SOLARIN, TAI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005